

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A sandwich panel, comprising:

(A) a core layer of polypropylene particle foam based on foam particles with a particle size in the range from 2 to 8 mm and a bulk density in the range from 10 to 100 g/l between

(B) two cover layers of fiber-reinforced polypropylene, each of said cover layers having a face opposite the core layer; and

(C) optionally, a decorative layer on each of the faces,

wherein the core layer A comprises from 1 to 10% by weight of recyclate particles of components A, B and optionally C having an average particle size of from 5 to 10 mm and wherein the foam structure of the core layer remains substantially intact.

2. (original) A sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cover layers B include from 10 to 60% by weight of glass, natural or polymeric fibers in the form of mats, nonwoven scrims, wovens or short fibers.

3. (original) A sandwich panel as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cover layers include from 20 to 50% by weight of glass mats.

4. (previously presented) A sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decorative panel comprises a fiber web, a polymeric film or a foam film.

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

5 ~~1~~. (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polypropylene of the particle foam in the core layer is selected from the group

MOECK et al., Ser. No. 09/714,191

consisting of a polypropylene homopolymer, a copolymer of polypropylene and 0.5 to 15% by weight of ethene, a copolymer of polypropylene and 0.5 to 15% by weight of 1-butene, and a copolymer of polypropylene and from 0.5 to 15% by weight of ethene and 1-butene.

~~6~~ 8. (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polypropylene of the particle foam of the core layer has a crystallite melting point in the range of 120° to 170°C.

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

~~7~~ 11. (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polypropylene in the cover layers is selected from the group consisting of a polypropylene homopolymer, a graft copolymer of polypropylene and maleic anhydride, a graft copolymer of polypropylene and acrylic acid, a copolymer of polypropylene and maleic anhydride, and a copolymer of polypropylene and acrylic acid.

~~8~~ 12. (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decorative layers comprise a fiber web, wherein said fiber web comprises a polyester or polyamide, polymeric film or a foam film optionally laminated with a film.

~~9~~ 13. (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core layer comprises from 1 to 20% by weight of said recyclate particles.

~~10~~ 14. (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core layer comprises from 2 to 10% by weight of said recyclate particles.

15. (canceled)

11 ~~16.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the recyclate particles have an average particle size of from 6 to 8 mm.

12 ~~17.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core layer is 3 to 20 mm thick.

13 ~~18.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the cover layers is 0.5 to 2 mm thick.

14 ~~19.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decorative layers are 1 to 5 mm thick.

15 ~~20.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decorative layers are 1 to 3 mm thick.

16 ~~21.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core layer is obtained by welding 1 to 10% by weight of the recyclate particles having an average particle size of from 5 to 10 mm with 90 to 99% by weight of polypropylene foam particles.

17 ~~22.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core layer is 3 to 20 mm thick and each of the cover layers is 0.5 to 2 mm thick.

18 ~~23.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decorative layers each comprise a fiber web foam film from 1 to 5 mm thick.

19 ~~24.~~ (previously presented) The sandwich panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decorative layers each comprise a fiber web or a foam film from 1 to 3 mm thick.

20 ~~25.~~ (previously presented) A motor vehicle part selected from the group consisting of truck floor, parcel shelf and side door trim, comprising the sandwich panel

MOECK et al., Ser. No. 09/714,191

as claimed in claim 1.